



For Immediate Release
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BIZNGO PRAISES HOUSE COMMITTEE FOR INCLUDING ENHANCED DISCLOSURE OF CHEMICAL INGREDIENTS IN NEW TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT REFORMS

(Washington, DC) – The Business-NGO Working Group (BizNGO) today praised the House Energy and Commerce Committee for including legislative language in the newly released reforms to the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) that will require greater disclosure of chemicals so that businesses may choose to use safer, less-toxic ingredients. This will help downstream businesses use safer chemicals and make greater informed decisions.

BizNGO had been pushing for reforms to TSCA because the toxicity of the majority of chemicals commonly used in commerce is unknown. Current law allows chemical suppliers to provide little to no information on the ingredients of their chemicals to the manufacturers.

To address these concerns, manufacturers and health care providers (downstream users of chemicals) have joined forces with environmental organizations to form the Business-NGO Working Group (BizNGO). The group has 200 participants and is focused on promoting the creation, adoption and use of safer chemicals and sustainable materials.

“Surprisingly many manufacturers do not know whether or not their products contain toxic chemicals, which is why we support TSCA reform. It is our hope that these reforms will soon be moved quickly through the legislative process so that companies will no longer have to play “chemical detective,” said Mark Rossi, chair of the BizNGO Working Group. He added, “Now all we need to see is more transparency for consumers.”

In a previous letter to Reps. Henry Waxman and Bobby Rush, BizNGO Chair Mark Rossi identified three measures that would address the need for greater transparency and the bill now addresses the first two issues:

- 1)** A requirement to disclose chemical ingredients across the supply chain (with confidential business information protections).
- 2)** A provision to allow the US Environmental Protection Action to collect chemical use data as needed for safety determinations.
- 3)** A minimum requirement to provide consumers with information on chemicals of high concern in products.

(More)



TSCA has not been updated since it was passed 34 years ago, leaving the public exposed to chemicals that have not undergone sufficient health and safety testing. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has only required testing on approximately 200 of the more than 60,000 chemicals that were on the market in 1976 and are still used today. This is a major public health hazard that must be addressed.

Please find below the new language in the reforms to TSCA, Sec.8:

(f) DISCLOSURES TO COMMERCIAL PURCHASERS.—

Effective 1 year after the date of enactment of the Toxic Chemicals Safety Act of 2010, all manufacturers and processors of chemical substances and mixtures subject to this section shall provide, with shipment or promptly thereafter and by request, to all known commercial purchasers of the chemical substances and mixtures they manufacture or process a disclosure, subject to section 14, of—

- (1) the chemical identity of the chemical substance or, for mixtures, the chemical identity of all chemical ingredients;
- (2) all information regarding toxicological properties of the chemical substance or mixture submitted to the Administrator under subsection (a);
- (3) the list of health and safety studies submitted to the Administrator under subsection (a), with copies of the individual studies available upon request; and
- (4) any records of significant adverse reactions submitted to the Administrator under subsection (e).

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